



The Ehlers e-Newsletter

For the Week of April 5, 2004

Visit our website at <http://www.house.gov/ehlers>

NOTE: Due to the U.S. House of Representatives going on spring recess in observance of the Easter and Passover holidays, the next issue of The Ehlers e-Newsletter will be published the week of April 19, 2004.

News from Congressman Ehlers ...

HOUSE OKS TRANSPORTATION BILL WITH \$50M IN LOCAL PROJECTS –

Michigan will receive an additional \$105 million per year for transportation projects under legislation approved by the U.S. House of Representatives Friday, Congressman Vernon J. Ehlers announced.

For more information, please read the press release on our website:

http://www.house.gov/apps/list/press/mi03_ehlers/040204TEALUpassage.html

THIS WEEK IN THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The U.S. House of Representatives is in recess until April 19, 2004.

Historical Tidbits

On April 5 ...

1792 - U.S. President George Washington cast the first presidential veto. The measure was for apportioning representatives among the states.

1869 - Daniel Bakeman, the last surviving soldier of the U.S. Revolutionary War, died at the age of 109.

On April 6 ...

1789 - The first U.S. Congress began regular sessions at the Federal Hall in New York City.

1917 - The U.S. Congress approved a declaration of war on Germany and entered World War I on the Allied side.

1965 - U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson authorized the use of ground troops in combat operations in Vietnam.

On April 7 ...

1922 - U.S. Secretary of Interior leased Teapot Dome naval oil reserves in Wyoming.

1933 - Prohibition ended in the United States.

1971 - U.S. President Nixon pledged to withdraw 100,000 more men from Vietnam by December.

1980 - The U.S. broke diplomatic relations with Iran and imposed economic sanctions in response to the taking of hostages on November 4, 1979.

1990 - In the U.S., John Poindexter was found guilty of five counts at his Iran-Contra trial. The convictions were later reversed on appeal.

2000 - The Senior Citizens Freedom to Work Act of 2000 was signed into law. The bill reversed a Depression-era law and allows senior citizens to earn money without losing Social Security retirement benefits.

On April 8 ...

1789 - The U.S. House of Representatives held its first meeting.

1913 - The 17th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, requiring direct election of senators.

1935 - The Works Progress Administration was approved by the U.S. Congress.

On April 9 ...

1865 - General Robert E. Lee and his 26,765 troops surrendered to Union General Grant at Appomattox Court House in Virginia. This event was effectively the end of the U.S. Civil War.

1866 - The Civil Rights Bill passed over U.S. President Andrew Johnson's veto.

1867 - The U.S. Senate ratified the treaty with Russia that purchased the territory of Alaska by one vote.

1959 - NASA announced the selection of America's first seven astronauts.

1976 - The U.S. and Russia agreed on the size of nuclear tests for peaceful use.

(Information from <http://www.on-this-day.com>)